(ग) यदि नहीं, तो सरकार हमारी प्रसारण सेवा तथा दूरदर्शन केन्द्रों को प्रतिस्पर्धा का सामना करने हेतु सक्षम बनाने के लिए क्या-क्या कदम उठा रही है?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० एम० सईद): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) और (ग) दूरदर्शन ने हाल के वर्षों में भरपूर प्रगति की है। इसके पास अब 18 चैनल हैं जिन पर प्रति सप्ताह 1300 घंटों से अधिक के कार्यक्रमों को प्रसारित किया जाता है। दूरदर्शन का मुख्य चैनल डी०डी०-1, 85.4% जनसंख्या को कवर करता है। इनसैट-2 बी के जरिए समग्र देश में उपलब्ध होने के अतिरिक्त, डी०डी०-2 चैनल अब स्थलीय रूप से 41 शहरों में तथा डी०डी०-3 चैनल 4 महानगरों में उपलब्ध है।

Recommendation of Raja Chelliah Committee

125. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of recommendations made by Raja Chelliah Committee on tax reforms have not been implemented by Government so far;

(b) if so, the details of such recommendations and the reasons for their non-implementation; and

(c) by when these recommendations are likely to be implemented to bring reforms in our tax system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (c) Chelliah Committee's recommendations on tax reforms are to be given effect in a phased manner. Most of these recommendations have already been implemented through Finance Acts of the preceding four years. No time frame can be set however for completing this exercise as tax reforms are an on-going process.

SCICI to set up Banking Operations

126. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether SCICI has sought permission to set up Banking Operations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the objectives of financial institutions like SCICI and ICICI entering the Banking Sector; and

(d) whether Government will enquire into the long term impact of such dilution of objectives of financial institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI-PROSAD PAL) (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, SCICI has contributed to the extent of 25% in the initial share capital of a commercial bank viz., ICICI Banking Corporation Limited promoted by ICICI.

(c) and (d) In terms of the quidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India in January 1993, institutions and others are permitted to set up banks in the private sector subject to certain terms and conditions. ICICI has *inter alia*, reported that in order to achieve the totality of services for corporates and non-corporates, ICICI thought it fit to set up a commercial bank.

Studios of AIR

127. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of high, medium and short studios of All India Radio (AIR) opened in the country during the current financial year;

(b) the location of these studios of AIR; and

(c) the dates when these studios have been opened?